The Guardian
www.ippmedia.com
KILIMO KWANZA
Friday 31 July, 2015
SUPPORTING THE PROMOTERS OF THE GREEN REVOLUTION

Talk to us 0718 985775 sms 0786 238851
kilimokwanza@guardian.co.tz

THE QUEST FOR DAIRY SECTOR MASTER PLAN

Pages 4,5

Fruit business changing lives of traditional coffee, banana farmers

By Cleophas Rwechungura, ACT

Muleba district is among the seven districts that form Kagera region. It boasts of an amicable environment for agricultural activities with temperature ranging between 20 and 28 centigrade, evenly distributed rain pattern - between 500 and 2,000 millimetres, plenty of arable land and fertile soils.

Basically, the livelihood of its residents depends on agricultural activities that are highly diverse. Major food crops are: bananas, cassava, sweet potatoes and maize, as well as an assortment of pulses, mostly beans, ground-nuts and bambara nuts. Coffee is the traditional staple cash crop. Rice is increasingly becoming a potential food and cash crop as well.

Over the years, most small scale farmers in Muleba district depended on coffee as the major source of income. However, this dependency is decreasing due to several reasons, mainly poor crop management, devastating pests and diseases that frustrate yields, and fluctuating crop prices.

For these reasons, coffee farmers had to look for alternative means of securing the necessities of life.

Interesting U-turn

After considering several diversification options, they decided to embark on fruit farming for commercial purposes. This was a U-turn taking into account that these farmers didn't take fruit farming seriously before.

A small group of pioneers spearheaded a process to revitalize fruit production at the small farmer lev-

CONTINUE PAGE 3

FARMERS LAUD MOVE TO SCRAP SKILLS DEVELOPMENT LEVY

Pages 6

Tanzania needs milk sector development master plan

TANZANIA is leading for having many herds of cattle in the East Africa Community (EAC). Unfortunately, however, the country produces the least amount of dairy products of all the four other EAC countries [Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi]!

The low production is attributed to a range of factors, from global climatic changes to lack of a diary production master plan.

Tanzania Diary Board (TDB) Registrar Dr Mayasa Simba estimates Tanzania's cattle herds to be a little over 21 million, but of these, only 780,000 are hybrid dairy cows with a daily output capacity of less than 400,000 litres.

"We do not produce much milk due to various reasons...this retards development of the sector and the economy in general," he conceded to this paper in a recent exclusive interview.

To reverse the situation there is a need for Tanzania to increase her investment in agriculture, specifically in the dairy sub-sector, that in turn will serve as a catalyst for speeding up national economic development.

There is also the challenge of climatic changes. The sole dependence on rainfall leaves the country vulnerable to dry seasons and other adverse weather conditions which affect availability of fodder, causing reduced milk production.

The country must invest in modern farming techniques that are not rain reliant such as increasing production of animal feed allowing for all year milk production and boosting milk value addition chain to process the milk into various milk products.

This should go alongside with empowerment of small farmers into organised groups and production units incorporated into milk companies and cooperatives allowing for capital development and other financial capacity building resources.

To achieve these, the country needs a diary sector development master plan drawn by both the government and private sector stakeholders through the Public-Private Partnership approach.

There is also a need to toughen import laws on cheap milk products to protect local producers who incur higher value addition costs due to the country's low industrialisation.

Likewise, while increasing levy on milk product imports, the country should also cut down regulatory costs for the dairy sector to reduce the operation burden carried by producers.

Latest data show that the cost of processing milk in Tanzania is higher than in Kenya by a significant margin of 48 per cent with the price of raw milk accounting for 51 per cent of the difference. Distribution cost contributes 31 per cent to the difference and processing costs makes 10 per cent.

This means that, partly, improving milk production hinges on improved transport infrastructure – be it railway network or roads – to allow efficient and affordable distribution channels.

Similarly, there is a need to harmonise policies that govern the sector to favour local industries and producers.

In order to achieve all these, we strongly believe that the country should draw the milk sector master plan that will guide and govern development of the sector.

inside

Artwork & Design: Collin Lema Call: 0655 166843

FROM PAGE 1

Fruit business changing lives of traditional coffee, banana farmers

el. This initiative created an organisation called Muleba Association for Agriculture and Local Industries – Mali. This entity was registered by Brela in 2007.

It is a member-based farmers' association, established to increase the income of smallholders through crop diversification, improved production techniques, micro-finance linking, modernised processing and marketing.

The company is owned by members and provides them with direct benefit as a reliable and secured market for produces that formerly had very little commercial value.

Farmers set up factory

Historically, farmers own small pieces of land measuring between 1 and 2 hectares, which though dominated by banana and coffee plants, it is very common to see fruit trees intercropped with these two dominant crops.

In the past, farmers never thought of turning what they called incidental plants into serious business. About ten years ago they realised the significance of these crops, hence decided to set up a juice factory to process fruits that are abundant all over the district.

Initially, this activity started as a small project and later on it grew gradually into a more organised, commercially-oriented, and financially sustainable business.

The idea was to provide alternative sources of farmers' income by expanding production and marketing of horticultural crops. "Fortunately Muleba Local Government Authority bought the idea which was later endorsed by a full Councillors' sitting. With this backing, we then started business in earnest," says Tresphory Gama, the Mali General Manager.

He says that Mali is committed to promote sustainable social-economic development of small farmers through processing and marketing of high quality fruit products, and guaranteeing fair prices.

This is a strategic poverty alleviation venture. He says that there are three strategic objectives of the company, which are: increasing, diversifying and commercialising fruit production; increasing smallholders' income by providing reliable markets and fair prices; processing the produce to add value to it; and creating employment, particularly for women.

On the composition of the fruits they buy from farmers, he says that pineapples constitute almost 90 per cent. Ten per cent is brew bananas, mangoes, oranges and mandarin/tangerine.

Chrisant Bombo, the current Mali Chairperson, says members of the company come from Muleba and Bukoba districts. He explains that the members have been drawn from over 200 households that form 25 farmer groups.

The number of people participating in actual farming is about 1,000, and by simple estimation the total number of beneficiaries (which include farm hands, petty traders, transporters and factory labourers) is approximately 5,000.

Mali juice brand

The company purchases raw material from members and non-member farmers. The materials include fresh fruits and semi-processed juice which is then delivered to the factory for upgrading and bottling.

For the purpose of raising fruit production and improving the quality, company officials are collaborating with agricultural extension officers to deliver appropriate technological packages, also linking them to other service providers.

> "After considering several diversification options, they decided to embark on fruit farming for commercial purposes. This was a U-turn taking into account that these farmers didn't take fruit farming seriously before.

Drawbacks to the business

There are some challenges that impede business development. For instance, the factory is underutilised because it does not receive enough raw materials from farmers.

Again, overhead costs are on the raise. These include packaging materials (containers, labels and crates), water and electricity bill, tear and wear of equipment, and transportation. It is obvious these costs are shifted to consumers of products.

Talking about other limiting factors in this business, Gama states that the main ones are: seasonal variations in crop yields and supply, fierce competition from middlemen who traverse villages in search of produce, lack of funds to purchase new and robust processing equipment, and limited market outreach.

"All these issues require some financial muscles to address them," he emphasized.

Mali Production Manager Jane Lwiza confides, "We are conscious of the need to live up to the standards set by the Tanzania Food and Drugs Authority, Tanzania Bureau of Standards, and Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points.

"In this regard, we are striving to maintain high standards of hygiene inside the factory and the surrounding area; we have also enhanced the stability of the processed product, packaging and shelf-life," she says.

Bright future

All in all, the future of this enterprise looks bright as long as members resolve to strengthen their coherence. There is a need to look into ways to increase the volume of raw fruits being processed from 150 to 200 metric tons by year 2017.

There is also a need to reduce production costs by increasing processing capacity and efficiency, to uphold workers morale through training and offering extra incentive, and to diversify the business by venturing into new areas, such as production of children foods, fruit jams and bottled water.

This initiative has raised rural income and employment, and has performed a countervailing power against rural to urban migration. There is vivid transformation of the rural population in Muleba district.

Most farmers who are engaging in fruit farming have brick built houses, roofed their houses using corrugated iron sheets and some have bought televisions sets. This demonstrates how people can improve their lives through determination, and appropriate actions.

*** Mali Juice Company is a member of ACT**

Send your comments (ACT) 0786 238851

Friday 31 July, 2015
The Guardian KILIMO KWANZA

The quest for dairy sector master plan

By Kilimo Kwanza Reporter

POOR milk production, change of weather condition, shortage of handling equipment and importantly lack of diary master plan have been cited as some of the reasons which made the diary industry not to be competitive in the country.

Speaking to Kilimo Kwanza Supplement in an exclusive interview, the registrar of Tanzania Diary Board (TDB) Dr Mayasa Simba said that despite Tanzania having millions of cows, milk production was low as compared to neighbouring countries.

At the moment, Tanzania is estimated to have over 20 million herds of cattle, but only 78,000 cows produce milk estimated to a little more than 400,000 litres per day.

She said, Tanzania needs to invest heavily in the diary industry which would later on speed up economic development. Simba said, the number of indigenous cows which produce milk should be increased and make sure that they are used as intended.

She mentioned another challenge facing the sector as change of weather, since during dry seasons Tanzania experiences low milk production.

"We should create conducive environment that would ensure that milk is available throughout the year. This will lead to reduction in imports of the same commodity," she said.

According to her, poor quality was another issue that needs to be addressed by all diary stakeholders, if they want their sector to be competitive.

The technology factor

She noted that despite producing more milk, but most of small scale producers do not have enough or modern handling equipment. Tanzania is estimated to have over 82 milk processing plants which produce between 1 to 500 littres per day. There are about 5 plants which produce more than 5,000 litres per day

"As you know in Tanzania the diary industry is dominated by small scale producers, hence more efforts should be made to support them access milk handling equipment," she said.

She explained another major challenging reason as lack of diary master plan. The TDB registrar noted that up to moment Tanzania does not have such a plan which is very crucial for the development of the sector.

She suggested that in order for the sector to develop, more efforts were needed by both the government and stakeholders to improve it.

She said time has now reached to conduct the diary business in cooperatives instead of the current moment where it is done by individuals.

"We have to engage cooperative societies in doing this business because most of small processors are scattered all over the country making it to be difficult to reach them," she said.

The foreign policies factor

Asked reasons which make milk imports to be cheaper than locally produced ones, she said it was due to foreign policies in some European countries. It is estimated that between 25 and 27 million litres of milk are imported yearly.

She said that diary policies in some European countries provide subsidy to milk producers which enabled them to increase production as a result, they produce thousands tonnes of milk and sell the excess to our countries at cheaper prices hence more people are attracted.

However, she denied that milk importers do not pay taxes to the government, saying they do so because it is mandatory.

Under the East African protocol milk is protected and the common external tariff stands at 78 per cent, so they pay as required, she said.

Check unauthorized routes

Dr Simba asked the government to check milk import through various unauthorized routes particularly from Zanzibar.

"We do not have mandate to inspect or check milk imported through Zanzibar ports, but time has come now to make sure that it does not enter through those routes," she said.

She revealed that the government was taking all measures to improve the sector, including scrapping off or reducing some taxes.

In its five-year ambitious plan (2013 - 2017), the board plans to increase milk production and processing, marketing and promotion of consumption of milk and dairy products in the country.

Dr Simba said that increase in production of milk will only be reached if livestock keepers opt for modern cattle breeds which have a high capacity of producing milk compared to the local breeds.

Not an easy task

Asked on poor performance of the diary industry in the country, the Chief executive Officer of Tanzania Milk Processors Association (Tampa) Edmund Mariki, said competitiveness of the dairy sector is not an easy task to assess since performance of the sector is affected by many factors.

As competitiveness of the firms depends on both the business environment and the firms' specific factors, it may simply seem abstract to associate competitiveness of the dairy industry with only one factor.

However, in the area of business and industry competitiveness, it is well established that any factor that adds costs to the firm or to the industry affects competitive advantage of that industry.

In this case, the regulatory costs paid by the firms operating in the dairy sector increase a burden to businesses and therefore affect their ability to compete.

Greater costs can affect their operational capacity. As highlighted in a Policy proposal study, once unnecessary costs are added to the firms, the effect is extended to other economic dimensions including taxes paid to the government, employment and income of the people.

Regarding milk import to be cheaper, he said production and processing costs in Tanzania are relatively higher than in some of the trading partner countries and in some of the countries where imported products originate, including those where farmers are subsidized heavily, high supportive dairy and supportive programme through very strong marketing policies.

Latest data indicates that the cost of processing a litre milk in Tanzania is higher than Kenya by a significant margin of 48 per cent with the price of raw milk accounting for 51 per cent of the difference. Distribution cost attributes 31 per cent of the difference and processing costs makes 10 per cent.

The problem is occasionally compounded by consumer preferences for imported products which are perceived as superior. One of the most critical factors supporting imported fresh milk is the packaging which allows for a longer shelf life of milk products compared to local which is short life products.

The policy factor

Tanzania's policies regarding the milk industry are not in harmony. While some policies put in place commercial measures favoring imports, politicians support local production.

> "The major challenging reason is lack of diary master plan. Tanzania does not have such a plan which is very crucial for the development of the sector.

Recently, the government took incoherent measures by facilitating imports (by removing tax on milk powder to giant milk processors used to reconstitute milk) and at the same time reintroducing VAT on local processed milk using raw milk from local farmers.

Generally, these programmes and policies do not put enough emphasis on priorities essential to farmers, and, specifically, the collection system, the milk transformation industry and feeds for animals.

The situation is very different in Kenya where, where policies have played a very important role toward milk production through assistance adapted to farmers' needs and through very strong marketing policies.

Tampa strongly urges that policies and tools used by the government should be well-adapted with: supporting government institutions such as the Kenya Dairy Board that encourages value addition by small scale entrepreneurs and the Kenya Artificial Insemination Service (KAIS) that provides semen for AI services in competition with private providers; and training that are well run to produce good graduates and appropriate dairy technologies.

Snags to dairy sector

Speaking in another interview, a diary stakeholder identified as Adam Sanga from Njombe region challenged the government to help remove the hurdles preventing the sector from growing, leaving powdered milk to dominate the local market.

He outlined the challenges facing the diary sector as poor livestock sheds, milking parlours, personnel hygiene, clothing, medical checks and milk handling equipment.

Others are insufficient extension or advisory services to dairy farmers and training for dairy farm-hands and management, inadequate clean water supply, low productivity.

Other snags are limited registration of stock and tracking of breeding programme – risk of inbreeding poor adoption of appropriate disease control practices by dairy farmers.

According to him, other challenges are limited access to affordable credit facilities for setting up processing facilities, limited technologies for small scale processing

He urged herdsmen to reduce the number of cattle and improve the industry through modern dairy farming.

He recommended the Tampa for building a diary processing plant and for addressing all the challenges facing the herdsmen.

Experts say despite having millions of cattle, goats and sheep, Tanzania has failed to tap the diary market.

It is estimated that annual milk production stands at over 27 million litres but the rate of milk drinking among Tanzanians is very low.

Currently, dairy sector contribute 3.8 percent to the GDP, of which 40 percent comes from beef and 30 percent from dairy, while 30 percent is from other stock.

A senior official from Tampa Edmund Mariki was quoted as saying that Tanzania needs to improve the diary sector so that it can tap the opportunities.

Much of the milk produced (86 percent) is consumed domestically and the rest (5.3 percent) finds its way to the local markets, purchased by traders from farm (4.6 percent), while only 1.4 percent is processed by factories.

He urged for improvement of productivity per cow, enhancement capacity or adoption of feeding conservation technologies by farmers and accessibility to dairy information or extension services.

He said the government should also speed up review of pending policies and bills such as school milk programme and strengthen institutional capacity of organisations serving the industry.

From promoting the importance of consuming milk for health purpose TDB expects to see an increase in milk consumption, which is currently at 45 litres per person annually compared to the World Health Organisation (WHO), recommended 200 litres per person per year.

Send your comments (TAMPA) 0786 238851

By Kilimo Kwanza Reporter

Farmers laud move to scrap skills development levy

FARMERS have expressed their appreciation with the government decision to remove value skills development levy (SDL) on agriculture, saying the move would improve the sector, particularly horticulture.

Speaking to this paper in an interview, the chairman of Agriculture Council of Tanzania (ACT) Dr Sinare Sinare, said in the past farmers were not paying SDL which is 0.2 per cent

"This levy was introduced accidentally by the Minister for Finance when presenting the government budget estimates for the year 2014/2015," he said.

Why levy scrapping is rejoiced

He said, various efforts were being made all seeking to persuade the government to suspend the levy because it was detrimental to their growth and economy in general.

"We managed to convince the government through Parliament, and it was removed in this year's budget estimations," he said.

He said, farmers need to conduct their activities under friendly environment, including paying taxes which do not affect them severely.

He also said the association has established talks with the government to see how they can reduce cess fee and boost collection efforts.

"We are paying a cess fee of 5 per cent in districts. This is very huge, it can be reduced to 1 per cent and the government could earn its income," said Dr Sinare.

He said, the major challenge facing most district councils is poor collection of government taxes including cess fees.

The government and other stakeholders need to sit down and make the agricultural sector, which employs over 70 per cent of the population, more competitive, he added.

VAT on soya decried

Dr Sinare noted that the association is not happy with the introduction of Value added Tax on soya which has led to an increase in price of poultry feeds.

For her part, the Chief Executive Officer of Tanzania Horticultural Association (Taha) Jacquiline Mkindi, said removal of and the skills development levy would boost production, which earned the country $477 million last year in exports.

"We are relieved by measures taken by the government as announced during the Finance minister's speech," she said in a statement availed to Kilimo Kwanza Supplement.

She said, the move followed pleas from the industry players and recent announcement on sparing agriculture from the taxes was enough indication of the government's commitment to boost horticulture.

With improved business environment, the horticultural sector is expected to grow significantly, with exports estimated to reach US$1 billion in the year 2020.

The agricultural sector was removed from SDL exemption list in July 2013 following the amendment of the VETA/Finance Act, a measure which farmers complained to have increased the tax burden on them.

Horticultural farmers in Tanzania are spending about 10 per cent of total annual farm revenue to pay different taxes, levies and fees. "Farming is labour intensive and paying SDL could pose a significant challenge" she said.

The association also lauded the government for reducing land rent to 5,000/- per acre from 10,000/- for urban areas and from 1,000/- to 400/- in the rural areas.

VAT on farm inputs scrapped as well

According to her, the government has also agreed to scrap VAT on farm inputs such as seeds, fertilizers and agro-chemicals.

In its pleas to the government, Taha teamed up with its partners; Agricultural Council of Tanzania (ACT), Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) and SAGCOT Centre Limited.

Horticulture exports from Tanzania hit a record $477m last year, up from $374m in 2013 and $380m in the previous year.

Most of the produce being flowers, cuttings, beans, peas and berries and others were exported to the Netherlands, Belgium, France,, United Kingdom, Canada, Austria and Kenya.

Taha's goal is to reach the yearly export value of $1 billion exports with increased investments in the sector. At the association's inception in 2004 exports earned the sector a mere $64m.

However, the government has been taking various steps, including establishment of the board to improve the horticultural sector.

> "This levy was introduced accidentally by the Minister for Finance when presenting the government budget estimates for the year 2014/2015.

It is envisioned that the proposed board will serve as a tool to defend the farmers' interests and address challenges the farmers are facing especially in market expansion and securing required inputs.

In an exclusive interview with Kilimo Kwanza recently in Dar es Salaam, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Industry and Trade Uledi Musa said, currently his office negotiated with the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives to develop the formalities of the proposal.

Horticulture board coming

According to the research conducted by Ministry of Agriculture in 2012, foreign exchange generated by the horticulture industry has increased from USD46.7 million per annum in 2006/07 to USD 112.6 million in 2008/09 and USD 127.7 million in 2010/11.

As such, the Permanent Secretary said there was a need to increase support to the programme, noting that the proposed board once formed, will help develop the sector.

He also suggested that, until the board is up and running, the already existing horticulture trade union will continue to manage the interests of the sector.

"Since the sector has no board mandated to oversee its activities, to supervise and favour their interest, we advise continued use of the current trade union while the government prepares the board," he said.

He emphasised focus on value addition chain as the key to expand markets for the sector. "This is the best way forward, refining, processing and canning all these are necessary value addition chains for the sector," he explained.

"Most horticulture commodities are perishable therefore need special attention including cooling storage facilities," he went on to say.

Citing an example, he said Kenya has improved the frequency of flights that enables them to transport perishable commodities much faster.

Supporting the proposal, stakeholders in horticulture say, they have for a long time now appealed to the government to establish the board as it has done for cashew nut, coffee and tea.

The general stand is that, the government has remained passive over the subject.

"Most horticulture products are high value crops whose demand has been growing, and the government has been promoting production of the products owing to the high values and opportunities in the world market are high but little is being done to protect the farmers," admitted the Permanent Secretary.

Flower sector booming

Having registered a rapid growth of up to 10 per cent annually and big achievements since 2004, the horticulture sub sector in Tanzania is booming to the extent of being dubbed, 'green gold'.

The sub-sector also saw direct foreign investment, registering 61 per cent increase and expansion of existing investment 23 per cent over a decade. Horticulture exports to markets abroad were 92,250 tonnes, mainly cut flowers, in 2007/2008 more than double from 40,602 tonnes in 2001/2002,

Flowers account for at least 80 per cent of horticultural exports from Tanzania. Besides Western Europe hub, some few companies have secured markets in the Mediterranean region, the Middle East and the US.

Tanzania's horticultural industry, especially its flower sub-sector, is based in Arusha and Kilimanjaro regions. There are over 20 farms majority of them opened in the last 15 years by foreign firms.

Send your comments (TAHA) 0786 238851

Why edible oil sector needs govt protection

By Kilimo Kwanza Reporter

THE Tanzania Edible Oilseed Association (Teosa) has urged the government to impose higher taxes in an effort to protect the country's infant edible oil sector.

Teosa secretary Enock Ugullum made the suggestion when speaking on the practical measures needed to reform the sector.

"The Tanzanian government must shield the edible oil sector from foreign competition through higher import tariffs," says Ugulumu.

According to the World health organisation (WHO), the minimum requirement for edible oil consumption per person is 5 liters per annum. It is estimated that the minimum amount of edible oil in Tanzania range from over 350,000 tonness per annum for the current population of over 40 million people that the country has.

It is also estimated that edible oil imports to Tanzania range between 70 per cent and 80 per cent.

Why shield the sector?

"Edible oil imports have had negative impacts to our economy, for example the government expenditure on edible oil imports for 2008 alone stood at US$ 146 million," Ugullum notes, adding:

"This is a big sum of money that could have been invested elsewhere, if Tanzania had the capacity of producing sufficient edible oil to meet the local demand."

He further says agriculture remains the backbone of our economic development. "We need to make long-lasting decisions to protect this infant sector and for the prosperity and survival of our economy. Tanzania is endowed with fertile land and climatic conditions that can make the country to produce enough edible oil products for domestic and export markets," notes the Teosa official.

Reforming the sector

Suggesting measures on how to reform the edible oil sector, the official says: "We need to involve the private sector in value addition activities, in functions such as production of edible oil crops, processing and packaging and distribution. The current status involves zero tariffs for all edible oil imports. Local consumers are a bit skeptical on the quality and standards of imports.

"The imported edible oils if not checked may cause health problems for Tanzanians. The importers source the imports from highly competitive countries that produce at low costs and sell at low prices."

He further says: "These imports jeopardise the local edible oil sector as the local sector cannot compete efficiently. The poor efficiency for the local edible oil sector is due to various constraints such as poor farm and processing technologies, low farmer productivity, poor infrastructure like roads, power and warehouses, poor or unavailable extension services for both farmers and processors, lack of financial support services, and poor agronomical practices."On the reasons to reform the sector, Ugullum says: "We need to build private sector capacity that allow actors of edible oil sector to create the capacity for continuous and sustained productivity and production for subsistence needs and surplus for domestic and export markets.

"We also need to improve local governance and policies of the edible oil sector that are necessary to shape economic performance and trigger sector's growth process. Actors in the sector will realize lots of opportunities if reforms are implemented."

'Bottom of pyramid' challenge

According to Teosa, Tanzania's challenge of development is its position at the bottom of pyramid (BOP). It coexists with the 21st century, but the reality is that it is in the 14th century as you compare the development standards of highly industrialized countries. We are obliged to view the sector with a different eye

"We have to learn from our failures and past mistakes-can we decide to swing our policies just like china did in the 1980s and later India followed?"

The sector's reform is not just a matter of political will, it is also a technical matter we need to involve some technical government interventions to protect and develop the sector.

"At the bottom of the pyramid- actors in the edible oil sector have shortage of knowledge. Need to train farmers, processors and by involving young educated Tanzanians," he says.

On the pre-conditions for turnaround in the edible oil sector, the Teosa official says: "What to do? Turnaround for the sector is inevitable, could be gradual for the improvement and sustainability of the sector.

"Let imports and domestic promotional of edible oil sector go hand in hand and switch to local production when we are satisfied with domestic production.

"And this is possible as we'll make educated young people get involved in the sector by providing capacity (knowledge), technical support, inputs supply, and financial support, increase the involvement of greater proportion of the population in the production of edible oil crops. The drive of change must originate from the same actors."

'Trade the edible oil surplus'

He also says that Tanzania must trade its surplus of edible oils with other countries and attract foreign investments into the sector in order to attain sustained edible sector development

On the intervention strategies for the edible oil sector, the official says: "Employ more people into edible oil agribusiness activities—production, processing, and distribution; the government need to focus on increased economies of scale through- improved productivity and increased number of participants in the sector especially by involving young people, and improved local governance (public sector, business associations , improved public and private support in provision of necessary inputs, agricultural research centers)."

Among other suggested measures to protect the infant edible oil sector include promoting industrialisation of the edible oil sector.

"Tanzania must spur industrialization through value addition for the edible oil sector. It should involve processors, packagers, distributors, exporters, wholesalers and retailers must feature the value chains of the sector," says Ugullum, adding:

"This may further trigger inflows of foreign capital to reduce imports of oils, promote exports of edible oil products and increase foreign currency receipts, and lastly prevent dumping of low quality edible oil imports."

He salso suggests the need for farmers, processors, and packagers to be provided with input subsidies.

"Improving infrastructures like roads, power supply, warehouses and financial, research and extension services of edible oil sector actors is another area that needs to be worked on."

Send your comments (TEOSA) 0786 238851

Farm Talk

By Elias Sabuni

TO BOOST AGRICULTURE IT IS EVERYBODY'S DUTY

The good time that every person gets to recall back what the stomach carried, is when you visit the retrain to release what the stomach douse not want to continue storing.

There is a provable which says "If wishes Were Houses Every One would be "Riding one" So it is true that if every person who takes a meal, would take a hole to cultivate to replace what she /he ate, then there would be no hunger in the world"

Tanzania while approaching elections in October nearly all people looking for leadership have shown in their campaign language that they will do all that they can to support the farmer for high production.

History has shown that during elections people are given a lot of promises, but after the election, the promises disappear and the government is left alone to fulfill what was said. It is possible to demonstrate that governments have a critical role in boosting agriculture development, especially in developing countries.

Planning is not all a new concept whether it is designed for short, medium and long term results. Its importance in charting out about better future outcomes is well known.

Political leaders should be aware that Agriculture planning needs should be under taken with the aim of achieving two major goals, the optimal use of land that would allow fanners and Live stock keepers to use land and water for high production and from the point of ecological sustainability to the satisfaction of the global demand for agriculture products. Both goals should be reflected in an integrated frame work rather than being taken as projects.

After winning the election, leaders should work with the agricultural planners who know the risks of leaving the agricultural sector entirely open to the market forces that might harm both producers and consumers.

Population growth is still the subject of debate. We have seen farmers and lives tock leapers fighting for land .One economist by the name Thomas Malthus, long ago predicated that unchecked population growth would eventually lead to the exhaustion of resource. Politicians have you seen this? Can you learn from others to overcome this?

However not all agricultural planning policies are the same. They may differ from country to country depending very much on the prevailing circumstances.

Though globalization is gathering momentum, one has to consider important issues like cost recovering, prices paid to farmers, not necessarily as determined by forces of demand and supply.

As it has happened now to some farmers being paid more than what it is in the market, Agriculture planning to be effective, farmers organizations and business chambers must be involved in the process.

Planning alone does not however act by its own to raise farmer's productivity. Those who take agriculture as an economic server to the farmers should be involved in all activate to raise production.

At the time of planning, cost benefit analysis should provide guidance to proper agricultural planning. The process should consider all relevant factors such as farm inputs prices, taxes fees for supporting research and marketing.

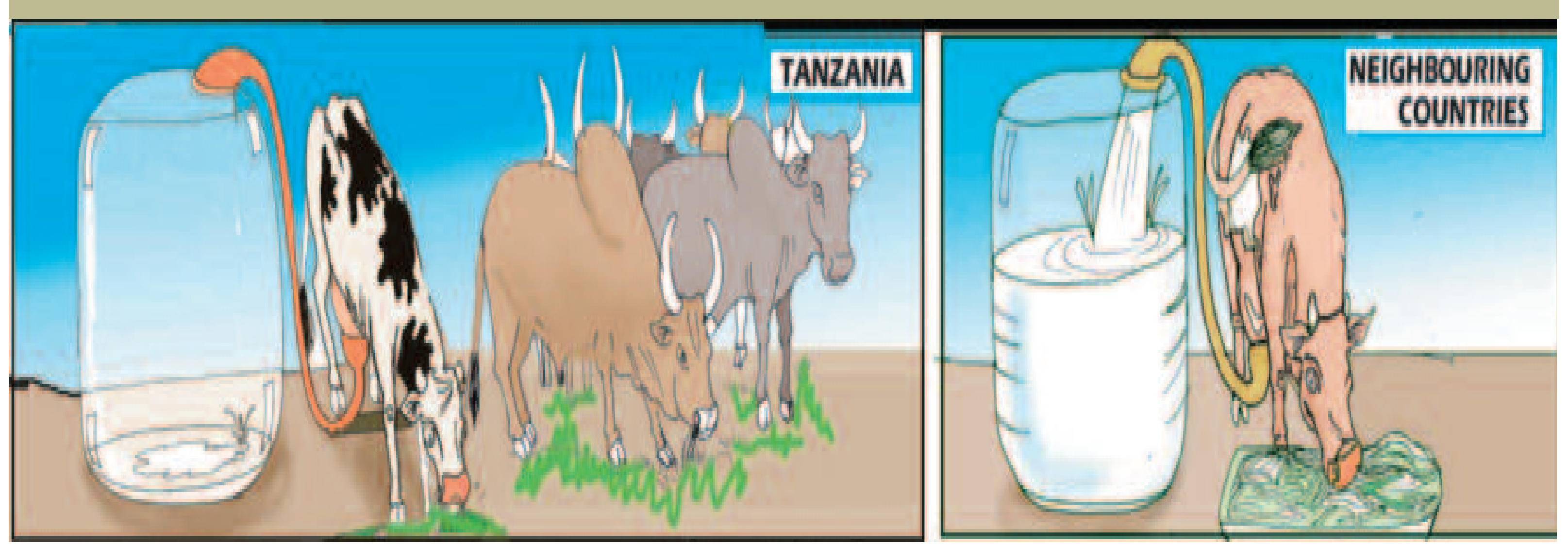
Agricultural extension workers should provide farmers in the field with the outcome of research to reach the target farmers. The goal is to make farmers run away from poverty. The indicators for winning the war against poverty and extreme hunger must come in the form of reduced malnutrition, affordable food prices, that each could buy enough food for the family, and increased range of food choices as well as improved health.

To Boost Agriculture production is therefore a duty of all who use food. It is the duty of the farmers, Agriculture planners, extension officers, input producers and marketers. Political leaders, religions leaders and the Government as an overseer of the process.

Email: eliasmalilasabuni@yahoo.com
Mobile: +255756-391989

CARTOON

Msamba: 0784 623437



KILIMO KWANZA DIRECTORY

WATER AND SANITATION

Dar es Salaam Water and Sewerage Authority (DAWASA) – Tel: +255 22 276 0006

Dar es Salaam Water and Sewarage Corporation (DAWASCO) Tel: +255 22-2131191/4

Drilling and Dam Construction Agency (DDCA) Tel: +255 22 2410430/2410299

Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority Tel: +255 22 2123850, 22 2123853

Balton Tanzania Limited
Mikocheni Industrial Area, Cocacola Road.
Tel: +255 22 2772826

Ministry of Water
Tel: +255 22 245 1448

INDUSTRY SUPPORT AND ASSOCIATIONS

Agriculture Council of Tanzania (ACT)
022 212 4851, Email: act@actanzania.or.tz

Tanzania Horticulture Association(TAHA)
+255 27 2544568 Email: taha@habari.co.tz

Tanzania Milk Processors Association (TAMPA)
+255 22 2450426
Email: tampa.office2012@gmail.com

Tanzania Chamber of Commerce Industry and Trade(TCCIA)
+255-28-2502890 Email: info@tccia.com

Tanzania Edible Oilseed (TEOSA)
0767-888704 / 0754-776148.
Email: teosaoil@gmail.com.

Zanzibar. Nat. Chamber of Comm., Industry and Agriculture (ZNCCIA)
255 24 223 1710 Email: info@znccia.or.tz

Jumuiya ya Vikundi vya Biashara Ndogondogo(VIBINDO)
0754 419318 / 0754096254 / 0756 429613
Email: vibindo@hotmail.com

Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture(TCCIA)
+255-22-2119436, +255-22-2128136
Email: info@tccia.com

Tanzania Private Sector Foundation(TPSF)
+255 22 260 1913 / 22 260 1938
Email: info@tpsftz.org

SUGEKO
+255-0787024645 Email: info(at)sugeco.org

Agricultural Non State Actors Forum (ANSAF)
022 277 1566 ansaf.tanzania@gmail.com.

AGRO-PROCESSING

ERTH Food - Tel: +255 22 2862040

MUKPAR Tanzania Ltd
Tel: +255 28 250038/184

ASAS Diaries Limited - Tel: +255 26 2725200

Tanga Fresh – Tel +255 27 2644238

NatureRipe Kilimanjaro Limited
Tel: +255 22 21 51457

EQUIPMENT

Gurudumu Tatu Limited
Tel: +255 22 2865632 / 2863699

National Service Corporation Sole (SUMAJKT)
Cell: +255 717 993 874, 715 787 887

FINANCE

Private Agricultural Sector Support (PASS)
Tel: 023-3752/3758/3765

Cotton & Textile Development Programme
Tel: +255 0718 835 679
Email: ctdp@tanzania-gatsby.com